

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior listings, and versions, of claims in the present application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled.)

2. (Currently amended) The hands-free speakerphone of claim + 19, wherein the peripheral face possesses sufficient curvature at the location of the at least one speaker port so as to further reduce the risk that the outer surface portion including the at least one speaker port can be sealed against the ear of a user.

3. (Currently amended) The hands-free speakerphone of claim + 19, wherein the housing comprises a front portion that includes the front face and a back portion that includes the back face adjoin along a parting line in a fixed relationship when the hands-free speakerphone is assembled for use, wherein the elongated recess is formed along the parting line.

4. (Previously presented) The hands-free speakerphone of claim 3, wherein the at least one speaker port is formed on an inner surface of the elongated recess.

5. (Currently Amended) The hands-free speakerphone of claim + 19, further comprising a plurality of speaker ports formed in the elongated recess in a spaced relationship relative to each other.

6. (Previously presented) The hands-free speakerphone of claim 5, wherein the spaced relationship includes sufficient spatial separation between speaker ports to further reduce the risk that the housing can be sealed against the ear of the user.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously presented) The hands-free speakerphone of claim 5, wherein the housing comprises a first portion and a second portion and the elongated recess is formed at the juncture of the first housing portion and the second housing portion.

9. – 18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently amended) The speakerphone of claim 1, An improved hands-free speakerphone for use with a communications system, said speakerphone comprising:
a speaker element; and
a housing for enclosing the speaker element, the housing comprising:
a front face having a user interface and a peripheral edge, wherein the
front face does not form any speaker ports;
a back face; and
a peripheral face extending between the front face and the back face along
at least a substantial portion of the peripheral edge of the front face;
wherein the housing forms an elongated recess on the peripheral face, the
elongated recess being in communication with at least one speaker port, the elongated recess
being of sufficient length and width so as to reduce the risk of a seal forming between the
housing and a user's ear.

20. (Currently amended) ~~The speakerphone of claim 19, An improved hands-free speakerphone for use with a communications system, said speakerphone comprising:~~
~~a speaker element; and~~
~~a housing for enclosing the speaker element, the housing comprising:~~
~~a front face having a user interface and a peripheral edge;~~
~~a back face, wherein the front face and the back face ~~does~~ do not form any speaker ports; and~~
~~a peripheral face extending between the front face and the back face along at least a substantial portion of the peripheral edge of the front face;~~
~~wherein the housing forms an elongated recess on the peripheral face, the elongated recess being in communication with at least one speaker port, the elongated recess being of sufficient length and width so as to reduce the risk of a seal forming between the housing and a user's ear.~~